



ENERGY ANGLES

TENNESSEE ENERGY EDUCATION NETWORK
ENERGY DIVISION--DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

November-December, 2004

TEEN Reaches Across State Lines

Tennessee and Mississippi Energy Education Programs: A Successful Collaboration

A collaborative project between the Tennessee Energy Education Network and the Mississippi Energy Education office was awarded funding through an Omnibus Grant sponsored by the U.S. Department of Energy. The project was developed to enhance the National Energy Education Development (NEED) program in both states by providing special training for teachers and allowing opportunities for experienced NEED teachers to communicate with teachers unfamiliar to the program.

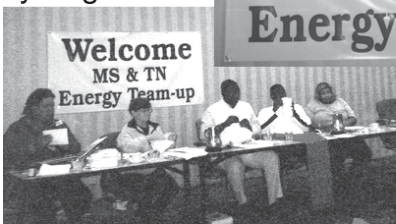
Four teachers from each state were selected to participate. The Tennessee teachers included Gerrienne Mayfield from Lexington, Kathy Hagler and Sherry Roepke from Tullahoma, and Nancy Johnson from Atwood.

The project provided support for these four teachers, along with their Mississippi counterparts to attend the NEED Summer Teacher Training

Conference in Galveston, TX where they participated in various hands-on learning sessions as well as a field experience. In October, the group met again at a follow up session in Olive Branch, MS where they exchanged ideas and shared plans for the school year.



Welcome
MS & TN
Energy Team-up



Winning Placemats Make Their Appearance

The first place winners in the 2004 TEEN Placemat Contest received their placemats just in time for distribution during Energy Awareness Month in October. Over 10,000 placemats featuring the winning designs were distributed throughout the schools and communities via participating restaurants.

Mindy Brackins from Pigeon Forge Primary in Sevierville received first place for the 3rd grade category. Her winning placemat lined the trays of the Chick-Fil-A in Sevierville. Both the 4th and the 5th grade categories had first place winners from Robert E. Lee Elementary in Tullahoma. Lincoln Myers, 4th grade, and Connor Fitzgerald, 5th grade, saw their winning designs gracing the tables and serving trays at eleven different businesses in Tullahoma. These included Burger King, Papa John's Pizza, Applebee's, McDonald's, Wendy's, Krystal's, KFC, Pizza Hut, Crockett's, The Place, and the Harton Regional Medical Center.



For entry forms and other information on this year's placemat and bookmark contests, visit the TEEN website at http://www.state.tn.us/ecd/energy_teen.htm or call the Energy Hotline at 1-800-342-1340.

The entry deadline is: **December 10, 2004.**

A Holiday Activity for Health and Physical Education

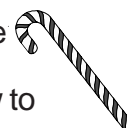
Get your students' energy flowing with this great idea for celebrating the holidays in phys ed class!

Materials:

Cones, basketballs, scooters, bean bags, yarn balls (or other type of small soft balls), Large plastic candy cane decorations (lawn decorations that cost about \$1 each), bells (holiday decorations), hula hoops, empty 2 liter bottles, Christmas stockings, jump ropes, holiday music.

This activity consists of 4 stations:

Get the Candy Cane - Set up empty 2 liter bottles inside of a hula hoop. Put a cone inside the hoop, behind the bottles. In the cone, place a large candy cane lawn decoration. Set up a cone about 7-10 feet from the hula hoop. Students take turn with a partner to use the underhand throw to try and knock down the empty bottles.



What is in Your Stocking? - Set up 2 cones about 5-7 feet apart. One student stands at a cone and holds a Christmas stocking. The other student is at the other cone and has a bean bag. Students use the underhand throw to toss the bean bag and the partners try to catch the bean bag in the stocking. After 5 attempts the partners switch places.

Jingle Bell Basketball - Attach little bows with bells on them (usually you can buy them in packages of 6) to the basketball net. Set up cones so that students can work with a partner. Students take turns dribbling the ball and taking a shot- you may set up cones for them to dribble around first. The bells jingle when a student makes a basket!



Candy Cane Lane - Make lanes with jump ropes (my jump ropes are red and white) and place a cone at each end of the lane. In the cone at the far end of the lane place a large candy cane lawn decoration. Students use scooters to travel down the lane, pick up the candy cane and bring it to the beginning. The next person can put the candy cane back.



Source: <http://www.lessonplanspage.com/PE4ChristmasStationIdeas35.htm>

Great Websites for Teachers

The Geothermal Education Office has many helpful resources for teachers in grades 3-12 for lessons and classroom activities. Teachers may request a "Free Stuff" package that includes an assortment of posters, brochures, fact sheets, booklets, and more. Also on the website are links to free sample curricular materials and information about purchasing other inexpensive teaching items.

<http://geothermal.marin.org/edmatl.html>

The Classroom Energy! Website sponsored by the American Petroleum Institute offers online activities and other materials for students and lesson plans and more for teachers. There is an online energy word find for learning vocabulary, information on energy careers, and lots of fact pages.

<http://www.classroom-energy.org>








The Electromagnetic Spectrum can be a lot of fun to learn about, especially with help from great web resources. One such resource can be found at <http://www.darvill.clara.net/emag/emagvis.htm> This site includes links to pages for different energy levels from radio waves to gamma rays. There is an online quiz and much more.

Teachers and students in grades 6-8 can visit the Alternative Fuels Data Center website sponsored by the U.S. Department of Energy's Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy. The site has links to various other websites that have lesson plans and support material for teaching about alternative fuel development and current use. http://www.eere.energy.gov/afdc/resources/curr_68.html

All preschool and early childhood teachers need to visit the Preschool Express by Jean Warren. This site is a jackpot of wonderful ideas, activities, free pattern and more for the younger students. The site's train theme is carried out by having links to different "stations," such as the "Calendar Station," the "Pattern Station," the "Music and Rhyme Station," and many more. <http://www.preschoolexpress.com>

The Green and Red of Christmas

As the holiday season gets into full swing, we face the annual temptation to splurge with our spending, giving and festivities. Remember that keeping the holidays "green" will help keep our budgets out of the "red" in January. It is possible for one to be environmentally friendly without being a "Scrooge." Here are some ideas to help you preserve the environment, conserve energy, and save money, while making the holidays bright.

-  To save on heating, turn down the thermostat before a party and the extra body heat of your guests will warm up the room. Consider walking to a neighborhood gathering or carpool with other guests rather than driving.
-  Try shopping near your home rather than driving long distances or order gifts from online stores. Planning ahead allows you to consolidate your shopping trips and prevents last minute frenzies and impulse buying. If every family could reduce holiday gasoline consumption by one gallon we'd reduce greenhouse gas emissions by one million tons!
-  When lighting up your corner of the world with holiday lights, choose light strands that are wired in parallel so that losing one bulb won't cause the rest to go out. Also look for smaller bulbs with lower wattage to save energy and reduce heat that could cause a fire.
-  Use faster film speeds of 400 or 800 to reduce the use of flash and extend the life of the battery. Consider buying rechargeable batteries instead of disposable – that goes for cameras and everything else that needs batteries.
-  Update and pare down your greeting card list and consider sending e-greetings to those online. The 2.65 billion Christmas cards sold each year in the U.S. could fill a football field 10 stories high!
-  Get a tree that can be planted or mulched afterwards or buy an artificial tree.
-  Remember the three R's:
 - ① **Reduce**- limit the number of gifts you buy for each family member.
 - ② **Reuse** – Find creative ways to reuse items such as newspaper or paper bags for gift wrapping. Or how about using glass jars to hold homemade candy for a tasty gift?
 - ③ **Recycle** - How about getting each family member to agree to buy or give a "recycled" gift for each person? This could be some of their own possessions or something bought at a consignment shop, a thrift store, flea market, or rummage sale.

For more ideas visit, <http://www.cygnus-group.com/use-less-stuff/ULSDAY/42ways.html>

Here's a neat holiday recycling idea for making ornaments from old greeting cards.

Materials and tools:

- Old greeting cards ➤ Glue ➤ Scissors ➤ Pen ➤ Clips
- A large coin or other circular object to cut a pattern and a triangle pattern to fit within the circle

Directions:

You will need to trace and cut 20 circles from the front of greeting cards for each ornament. You may want to use greeting cards of like colors or patterns or you can experiment with complimenting and contrasting colors.

Trace the triangle firmly with an ink pen or letter opener on the back of every circle. Then fold on the lines. You will need 5 circles for the base of the ornament, 10 circles for the middle band, and 5 for the top. Glue the bottom 5 circles together. Do this by putting glue only on two of the tabs for each of the five circles. Clamp each pair of tabs with clothes pins or binder clips. Keep adding the circles, tab by tab, until you have a twenty circle ball completely glued together. One ornament takes approximately 1 hour, but will be faster using an assembly line approach with a couple of friends.

Taken from <http://www.deq.state.la.us/assistance/recycling/home/cardornament.htm>

Three-Star Energy Education Program

The ECD/Energy Division coordinating with the new Three-Star Program is offering a \$500.00 grant to conduct energy education activities in schools. Points will be awarded for each activity/project undertaken and completed. A total of 10 points are required to be eligible to participate in the Change Your Light Program for Schools. Change Your Light Program will provide a \$1500 grant to purchase and install energy efficient lighting in schools. All Three-Star certified communities are eligible for these funds. If you are interested in this program, **please contact your local Chamber of Commerce or Three-Star Program consultant.**



2004-05 NEED Membership Kits are Available Now

The TEEN office has a very limited supply of National Energy Education Development (NEED) project membership kits for 2004-05 for Tennessee teachers and group leaders to purchase for \$5.00.

By participating in NEED, teachers and students or special groups, such as Boy Scouts or 4-H, lead energy conservation activities in their school and/or community. As a result of their efforts, students in their school and members of their community are saving energy and helping protect their environment.

Students prepare scrapbooks highlighting energy activities and enter the NEED Youth Awards for Energy Achievement competition.

The Tennessee NEED project scrapbooks are due in the TEEN office by April 15 and will be judged shortly after. The state winners will be forwarded on to the national NEED office to be judged on the national level. Winning teams will be sent to the Youth Awards National Recognition Ceremony in Washington, D.C. in June, 2005.

To purchase a NEED membership kit, send a check for \$5.00 payable to the:

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312 Eighth Avenue North, Ninth Floor
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Check out the latest issue of Energy Angles on our website at:
http://www.state.tn.us/ecd/energy_teen.htm

Energy Efficiency Improves Air Quality

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